

we have undertaken to do this by: (1) taking the initial steps to revise a clumsy and outmoded State Constitution—a century-old body of laws that has been amended in piece-meal fashion more than a hundred times; and, (2) laying the foundation for a complete reorganization and modernization of the executive branch of government, plans for which we hope to be able to lay before the next Governor when he takes the oath of office next January. Also, I think our effectiveness as individual states will be enhanced by a greater measure of interstate cooperation. The most spectacular example of the force states can exert by working in concert is to be found in the vast federal program for the rehabilitation and rejuvenation of the Appalachian Region, a program that was initiated and, in large measure developed, by a conference of Governors, many of whom are represented here. This means, as I see it, that this Southern Governors' Conference will play an increasingly important role in the governmental affairs of its representative states and will become in the future an increasingly effective instrument for the enhancement of the lives and fortunes of the men and women of the South.

It has been a deeply satisfying experience to have worked closely with the chief executive of the states represented here in a regional effort to find a solution to many of our common problems—problems involving education, highway safety, industrial development, nuclear energy and space and others. I have enjoyed immensely the relationship with the Governors of the South—with those who have left office, with those who will be leaving with me soon and with those who will continue in office and take up the burdens which we are leaving for them.

Finally, may I again express my gratitude to you for the high honor you have paid me and for affording me this opportunity to serve as Chairman of the Conference of Governors.

ADDRESS, ROTARY CLUB OF FREDERICK

FREDERICK

September 28, 1966

President Austin, President-elect Housewright, other officers and members of the Rotary Club of Frederick and their guests, ladies and gentlemen:

Almost every event I attend nowadays is in the nature of a farewell.